

• SENTENCE COMBINING PRACTICE •

1 Compound Sentences**► Key Information**

A simple way to combine sentences is to use a coordinating conjunction. The coordinating conjunctions are *and*, *but*, *or*, *nor*, *for*, and *yet*.

- a. She found the right road.
- b. She couldn't turn. [, **but**]
- c. It was flooded. [**for**]

*She found the right road, **but** she couldn't turn, **for** it was flooded.*

► Directions Use a comma plus a coordinating conjunction to join the sentences in each cluster.

- 1. a. The trash needed to be taken out.
b. The kitchen sink was ready for a good scrubbing. [, **and**]
- 2. a. Charles may go out for cross-country track.
b. He may just focus on his studies this term. [, **or**]
- 3. a. I've decided to look into the Peace Corps.
b. A desk job doesn't appeal to me right now. [, **for**]
- 4. a. This may be the breakthrough we've been looking for.
b. It may be just another false alarm. [, **or**]
- 5. a. Many of the relay stations are out of commission.
b. They're doing their best to get the calls through. [, **but**]
- 6. a. He's going back to school next term.
b. He's tired of flipping burgers for a living. [, **for**]
- 7. a. They're not listed in the phone directory.
b. We do [not] have their address. [, **nor**]
- 8. a. A weather front moved through after midnight.
b. The next day was free of air pollution. [, **and**]
c. Tanya continued to have difficulty breathing. [, **but**]
- 9. a. Some of the women were put to work.
b. They had their own tools. [, **for**]
c. Most of them had to wait till the truck arrived. [, **but**]
- 10. a. They waited at least a half-hour.
b. The waiter never returned. [, **but**]
c. The maitre d' would not look their way. [, **and**]

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2 Compound Elements► **Key Information**

Sometimes we combine sentences that share information. One way to avoid repeating the shared information is by using compound elements.

- a. The tenants declared a workday.
- b. The tenants cleaned up the grounds. [and]

*The tenants declared a workday **and** cleaned up the grounds.*

► **Directions** Use the coordinating conjunctions *and*, *or*, *but*, and *yet* to combine the sentences in each cluster. Include only the new information (which is underlined in the first few items) from sentence *b* (and, in items 5 and 10, from sentence *c* as well).

- 1. a. Kenji watched a documentary on Ireland.
b. Kenji read the newspaper. [and]
- 2. a. Kenji watched a documentary on Ireland.
b. Kenji watched the evening news. [and]
- 3. a. Ursula knew him in the first grade at Boyson School.
b. Donna knew him in the first grade at Boyson School. [and]
- 4. a. Mr. Ruggiero was a demanding boss.
b. Mr. Ruggiero was a fair boss. [but]
- 5. a. Nick's recipes have all been inexpensive.
b. Nick's recipes have all been tasty. [yet]
c. Nick's recipes have all been easy to fix. [and]
- 6. a. We don't know whether they're coming at six o'clock.
b. We don't know whether they're coming at seven o'clock.
- 7. a. Highway 1 is narrow through that stretch.
b. Highway 1 is winding through that stretch.
- 8. a. Leticia was beginning to feel the cold.
b. Duane was beginning to feel the cold.
- 9. a. We had thoroughly enjoyed their visit.
b. We were anxious to have them leave.
- 10. a. They had found no work in Libertyville.
b. They had found little work in Preston.
c. They had found steady work in Cache Junction.